

Amendment To The Claims:

Below is a listing of claims that will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present patent application.

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)
16. (Canceled)
17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A method of enabling an end-user to locally process content information at a quality level remotely adjustable by a service provider, comprising: communicating over a data network with an end user apparatus for rendering content information, and configuring the end-user apparatus to locally adjust the quality of content information rendered through the end-user apparatus, the adjustment to quality being based on (1) a change in the storage capacity for storing content information in a storage device associated with the end-user apparatus, and (2) a change to the software controlling a rendering circuit associated with the end user apparatus.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the end-user receives a higher quality in return for a higher fee.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein:

-the content information comprises video data; and

-the quality level relates to at least one of a color depth and a resolution of the video data when rendered.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the adjusting of the quality of the storing comprises regulating a storage capacity of the storage device.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the regulating of the storage capacity comprises providing end-user access to a selected portion of a local storage.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein:

-the storage device comprises a HDD; and

-the storage capacity is regulated by controlling a mechanical component of the HDD.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein:

-the local storage comprises a solid state memory; and

-the storage capacity is regulated by controlling an address range of the memory.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein:

-the local storage comprises an ODD; and

-the storage capacity is regulated by controlling a mechanical component of the ODD.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the locally adjusting the quality comprises changing the software for the rendering circuit to control a data format of the content Information for play out.

30. (Currently Amended) A CE apparatus for processing content information received via a data network, wherein:

-the apparatus enables an end-user to select a specific one of multiple quality levels of the processing;

-the apparatus comprises a controller for setting the specific quality level in response to a signal supplied by a third party, the controller is coupled to a storage device, wherein a specific quality level corresponds to a specific storage capacity allocated for the content information by the controller according to the signal, the apparatus configured to receive the content information and the signal via a data network;

-the apparatus enables processing comprising playing out the content information;

-the apparatus comprises a circuit for rendering the content information;  
and

-the controller is coupled to the rendering circuit for setting the specific quality of the rendering under control of the signal, wherein the setting of the specific quality is based on (1) a change in the storage capacity for storing content information and (2) a change to software that controls the rendering circuit.

31. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the storage device comprises at least one of a HDD, an ODD, and a solid state memory.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein:

-the content information comprises video data; and

-the specific quality determines at least one of a resolution of the rendered content information and a color depth of the rendered content information.

34. (Currently Amended) An end-user system comprising:

an output for rendering of content information to an end user;

a communication interface for communicating over a data network with a third party server for remotely adjusting the rendering of content information on the end-user system; and

the quality of content information rendered through the output being adjustable by the server, the adjustment to quality being based on (1) a change in the storage capacity for storing content information in a storage device

associated with the end user system apparatus, and (2) a change to the software controlling a rendering circuit associated with the end-user system.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34 wherein the storage capacity of the storage device is remotely adjustable.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34 wherein the software is remotely adjustable.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 35 wherein the storage device comprises one of a HDD, an ODD, and a solid state memory.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34 wherein the quality of content information comprising video information is remotely adjustable and the output comprises a video display.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38 wherein the output comprises a television display.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38 wherein the storage device comprises a PVR.